

MINUTES

ALLIANCE BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

Lewis & Clark Conference Room

Call to Order: Chairman, Nibs Moessmer at 8:00 am.

Present: Nibs Moessmer, Wanda Grinde, Pat Clark, Richard Klose, Todd Wood, Rod Ostermiller, Diane Boyett, Rae Ann Mall, Sandra Loendorf, Brent Cromley,

Staff: Bea Ann Melichar, Joan Kimball, Judy Hughes, Pam Makara, Sheri Olsen, Pam Makara

Correspondence: Pat Clark read email messages received from Kathy Brayko, Zach Winkelmann and Sue DeVries

Minutes approved of October 28, 2015 meeting

No Introductions

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

A. Pursue More Diversified Funding

- a. **Business Report:** Rae Ann reported the October financials were reviewed. A Senior Mill Levy committee is meeting this month. The 2016 September Evenings event has been postponed until the spring of 2017 to allow concentration on the Mill Levy. We are very pleased with the low 3.8% increase through Pacific Source Health Insurance. As a result, Alliance is retaining this staff benefit. Alliance pays one half of the deductible (\$2,000) which will increase to \$2,500. Employees are now exposed to the additional \$500. The business committee is now asking the board to confirm the decision to split the \$500 between Alliance and the employee at \$250 each. The motion was moved, seconded and voted in favor.
- b. **Development Committee Report:** The committee did not meet in November.
 - i. **Staff Report:** From \$3,500 initially raised in the last Direct Mail, we are now at \$4,500. Another Direct Mail goes out Friday, December 4th. We will not know the fundraising amount from Lucky's BAGS OF CHANGE until the end of December. Lucky's "Coffee & Cookies" campaign continues each month. Judy speaks with 5-15 shoppers at Lucky's that don't know anything about Alliance. Nibs suggested that Judy's title be included on her Senior News "Connections" page.

B. Collaborate with other agencies/organizations on key issues

- a. **Program Services:** The committee did not meet in November.
 - i. **AVP Policies:** Diane asked the board for any questions/comments on the newly distributed and revised AVP Policies & Procedures. The Alliance Board monitors AVP. A motion was called to approve the new AVP P&P. Seconded and all in favor.
- b. **Staff Report:** Joan shared that the *Love Tree* is located at Sears, K-Mart, Yellowstone Medical Arts Building and the Heights Wal-Mart. Names of recipients who are alone or needy come from MOW and nursing homes. AVP volunteers made the paper ornaments containing information on each *Love Tree* recipient. The Senior News featured the *Love Tree* project on the front cover.

C. Develop, Recognize and Reward Staff

- a. **Personnel Committee:** Pat mentioned that the November 18th meeting focused on health insurance. The staff survey is scheduled to continue in 2017 and the year after Bea Ann's retirement. The next meeting is slated for January 20, 2016.

D. Marketing and Community Awareness

- a. Judy shared that Alliance is now a Billings Chamber member. She attends the Business After Hours events the second Wednesday of each month. Our radio ads are on 6 stations: 730AM KYVA News Talk, 96.3 The Zone Rock, 910 AM ESPN Billings, 105.0 My Classic Hits, 94.1 KSKY and 106.7 The Planet. The PSA 30 second spots should begin after Christmas and the complete 5 minute video will air in January, 2016.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Cyber Insurance:** We made the decision to purchase cyber insurance because of our exposure on FB, the web and internet. Leavitt approved the \$1,000 a year policy. A company who will check our inventory and test our vulnerability to hackers will report any issues to be addressed. We feel better about our security now rather than six months ago. Clients using our computer downstairs are no longer able to access our private internet system.

OTHER

A. Alliance Staff:

- a. Joan mentioned that our Health Insurance Agent could not believe our rate increase of only 3.8% which is attributable to those plan holders who use the plan judiciously. Pacific Source has given us great customer service.
 - b. Pam congratulated Brent Cromley on his recent re-election to the City Council. She also gave a "shout-out" to Diane Boyett who can be seen most mornings at Alliance. We appreciate her sense of commitment to us. Volunteers are asking if Board Members are enrolled as volunteers and have completed their background check. Pam encouraged those members who have not completed the necessary paperwork to do so as quickly as possible. The goal now is to move forward with AVP. Alliance is a recipient agency of the Thanksgiving "Run Turkey Run" event. Last year, we received \$4,000. This year will be a little less because of the extreme cold temps the day of the race. We are down six tax preparers for next year. During the month of January, AARP will train new tax preparers. Please contact Pam if the board knows anyone interested in volunteering for this service. Last year we processed 1,900 returns of individuals with social security income. We need a MOW driver on Wednesday.
- B. **Area II Agency:** Todd spoke regarding a debt of gratitude to all the SHIP Counselors this year as well as kudos to the Resource Center staff handling clients during the Medicare Part D enrollment period through December 7th. Todd stated that senior centers should run bonuses through payroll to avoid tax issues and not just hand-deliver money to recipients. The OAA bill still sits in the House. Todd encouraged the board to send a letter to Congressman Ryan Zinke regarding the importance of the Act to Alliance's success. The letter should be completed by the end of the year. Funding continues to be difficult and discretionary. Todd passed around a brochure entitled "Aging in America from 1980 to the Present" created by NASUAD, the National Association for States United for Aging and Disabilities in Washington, D.C. Please note the stats for funding are not keeping pace with increasing senior needs. The Governor's Council of Aging committee is searching for possible 2016 sponsors and asked the board to share their suggestions with Bea Ann. We want a good showing for the Conference from this area.
- C. **Executive Director:** Our decorated building is the result of twenty General Electric volunteers who arrived for a few hours on December 1st. Bea Ann invited each board member to select a bottle of Christmas wine or a box of candy as a thank you in appreciation of their dedication and service to Alliance. The next six months will be a busy time for the board working on the Mill Levy.
- D. **Program Director/HR:** Joan announced that today they are interviewing a likely candidate through the YWCA training program to help Alliance man the phone lines during AARP's tax season. The YWCA has helped us during the past 2 years and we look forward to implementing this wonderful service again.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 am

Respectfully submitted
Sheri Olsen